

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Upon entry of this amendment, the following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the pending application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 42 and 69, and cancel claim 50 as follows:

42. (Currently Amended) A deformable pad for removably securing an ostomy bag to the skin of a patient having comprising a plastics film bonded to an adhesive material having incorporated therein a fabric, and an opening for receiving stomal waste, wherein the opening is surrounded by one of (i) a pliable unreinforced convex formation on a bodyside face of the pad [[;]] and (ii) a hollow frustoconical ring extending outwardly from a bodyside face of the pad.
43. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 42 wherein the adhesive material comprises a hydrocolloid composition or a hydrogel adhesive.
44. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 43 wherein the adhesive material comprises a hydrogel adhesive wherein the hydrogel adhesive comprises an adhesive water-swellable polymer.
45. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 44 wherein the hydrogel adhesive is formed of a polymeric cross-linked material.
46. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 45 wherein the adhesive material comprises a hydrocolloid composition wherein the hydrocolloid composition comprises gel-forming natural and modified polysaccharides in combination with polymers based on styrene, isoprene or isobutylene.
47. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 42 wherein the plastics film is less than 0.2mm in thickness.
48. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 42 wherein the plastics film is a woven or non-woven plastics material.

49. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 42 which is of substantially uniform thickness.
50. (Canceled).
51. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 42 wherein the side of the deformable pad opposite to the bodyside surface is bonded to a backing layer.
52. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 51 wherein the backing layer is formed of a water-vapour permeable material.
53. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 52 wherein the backing layer is formed of a non-woven or spun-bonded material comprising polyethylene.
54. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in 52 wherein the backing layer extends radially beyond the adhesive material.
55. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 54 wherein the backing layer is provided with an adhesive to enable it in use, to adhere to and form a seal against the skin of a patient radially outwardly of the deformable pad.
56. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 55 wherein the adhesive extends around the periphery of the backing layer and/or is interposed between the deformable pad and the backing layer to bond the adhesive material thereto.
57. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in 52 wherein the backing layer is secured to an ostomy bag.
58. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 57 wherein the ostomy bag is secured by adhesive bonding or welding.
59. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 42 wherein the bodyside surface of the adhesive material is covered or coverable with a release liner.

60. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 59 wherein the release liner is made of a moulded plastics film.
61. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 59 wherein the liner is coated with a silicone on one or both sides thereof.
62. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in 59 wherein the release liner conforms to the shape of the bodyside surface of the adhesive material.
63. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad as claimed in claim 62 wherein the release liner is pre-formed.
64. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad according to claim 63 wherein the release liner is formed together with the plastics film and the adhesive layer.
65. (Previously Presented) A deformable pad according to claim 42, the deformable pad consisting essentially of a plastics film bonded to an adhesive material; the adhesive material being covered by a release layer, the deformable pad having means defining an opening for receiving stomal waste, the means defining said opening being surrounded by a pliable unreinforced convex formation on a bodyside face of the pad; the deformable pad having been formed by moulding a laminate comprising the plastics film, adhesive material and release liner.
66. (Previously Presented) An ostomy bag comprising a deformable pad for removably securing the bag to the skin of a patient about a stomal opening, the deformable pad being as claimed in claim 42.
67. (Previously Presented) An ostomy bag as claimed in claim 66 which is either a one-piece or two-piece ostomy bag.
68. (Previously Presented) An ostomy bag as claimed in claim 67 which is a two piece ostomy bag and wherein the two-piece ostomy bag comprises a two-part coupling having bodyside and bagside elements, the deformable pad being bonded to the bodyside element.

69. (Currently Amended ) A method for producing a deformable pad, as claimed in claim 42, ~~for removably securing an ostomy bag to the skin of a patient~~, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a layer of plastics film, or a precursor thereof, and a layer of adhesive material;
- (b) shaping the layers of material into a required configuration; and,
- (c) bonding the layers together, where they have not already been thus bonded.

70. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 69 wherein the precursor of the plastics film is a woven or non-woven material which forms a film on heating.

71. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 69 wherein the layers are shaped and bonded together simultaneously.

72. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 69 wherein the layers are shaped and bonded by thermo-forming or vacuum-forming the layers.

73. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 69 wherein the layers are shaped and bonded with a release liner.

74. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 73 wherein the release liner is pre-formed.

75. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 69 wherein the convex formation or frustoconical ring is formed by deforming a combination of a layer of thin plastics film and adhesive material in a suitably shaped mould.

76. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 75 wherein the layers are moulded by thermo-forming in a one or two stage process.

77. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a deformable pad as claimed in claim 76 wherein the layers are moulded by thermo-forming in a two-stage process wherein the layers are initially cold-formed to form the required shape and then thermally treated to bond the layers together.